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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/805,157	03/14/2001	Hajime Matsubara	26.1699	1765

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER
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DURAN, ARTHUR D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3622

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/805,157

Applicant(s)

MATSUBARA, HAJIME

Examiner

Arthur Duran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

JA

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-5 and 7-18 have been examined.

#### *Response to Amendment*

2. The Amendment filed on 2/25/05 is sufficient to overcome the Haitzuka, Cohen, and Takayama reference. A new reference has been added to replace the Takayama reference.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-4, 7, 9-12, 14-17, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haitzuka (6,366,298) in view of Cohen (6,236,330) and in further view of McGregor (5,250,941).

Claim 1, 7, 12, 18: Haitzuka discloses a method, medium transmitting advertising information, comprising:

receiving position information from a client (col 5, line 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 42-45);

determining a passage count of the client in a predetermined advertising information transmission area in which the position information belongs and storing the passage count; and transmitting to the client advertising information according to the passage count of the client in

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the transmission area (Fig. 3; col 3, lines 60-65; col 5, lines 27-44; col 5, lines 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 24-34; col 7, lines 2-5).

Haitsuka further discloses tracking what advertisements a user was exposed, how many exposures a user was presented, and the frequency of exposure to advertisements (col 2, lines 62-67; col 6, lines 17-27).

Haitsuka does not explicitly disclose defining transmission areas.

However, as disclosed above in the prior art references, Haitsuka discloses tracking and recording a variety of user information including demographic, profile, and geographic information including specific user location or the general user location. Haitsuka further discloses that a variety of criteria can be utilized for determining whether to send advertising to a user, including geographic criteria in many forms.

Additionally, Cohen discloses defining transmission areas (col 1, line 60-col 2, line 17; Fig. 2; Fig. 3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to that Haitsuka can utilize geographic area information or user frequency in a geographic area as criteria for transmission of advertising. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide advertising of location convenient interest to a user.

Haitsuka further discloses that the client can be mobile (col 4, lines 12-30).

Haitsuka further discloses recording the number of times a user sees an advertisement (col 2, lines 55-60) and recording the frequency or number of times a users sees an advertisement and that geographic location can be a requirement for whether the user sees an advertisement (col 6, lines 17-27).

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Haitsuka further discloses tracking user location, profile, demographics, interactive data, scheduling requirements (col 3, lines 60-65) and that this information can be utilized for sending information (col 5, lines 30-44; col 6, lines 24-29).

Cohen discloses geographic zones for advertising (col 1, lines 27-40 and as cited above) and that the number of displays of an advertisement in a predefined geographic zone is recorded (col 5, lines 20-34).

Additionally, Haitsuka discloses tracking a user geographically and that a variety of rules can be utilized for determining to send advertising (Fig. 3).

Haitsuka further discloses changing advertisements after certain periods of time (col 2, lines 48-50) and recording what advertisements a user was exposed to, for how long, when, etc (col 2, lines 62-67) and controlling the frequency of which a user sees an advertisement (col 6, lines 17-27).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to that Haitsuka can utilize user exposure to advertising or time duration of exposure as a parameter of whether to show a user new advertising or not. One would have been motivated to do this in order to better control the amount of exposure a user receives to particular advertisements.

Also, Haitsuka discloses changing advertisements after certain periods of time, adjusting content based on frequency, maximum views by an individual, time periods, time frames, profiles, and geographic information:

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“(12) Sophisticated systems have the capability to change the advertisement after a certain period of time” (col 2, lines 47-50);

(19) The data to be sent to users preferably has scheduling requirements that dictate when it should be sent. These scheduling requirements may include, for example: frequency, maximum number of times to send to an individual, minimum number of times to send to an individual, time of day to send, and first and last days to send. The data to be sent to users can have demographic requirements that dictate to whom it should be sent. These include (but are not limited to): personal profile, interactive data, network usage information and geographic location” (col 6, lines 17-29).

McGregor (5,250,941) discloses tracking counting a mobile user's passing through a predetermined area over a certain time frame (col 1, lines 5-25; col 2, lines 5-11; col 2, line 64- col 3, line 7).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to that Haitsuka can utilize geographic area information or user frequency in a geographic area in a certain time period as criteria for transmission of advertising. Therefore, it would be obvious that Haitsuka would only send one advertisement to the user for a certain time period for a certain location/region. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide appropriate or optimal amounts of targeted advertising to users without oversaturating the user with the same advertisement.

Claim 2: Haitsuka and Cohen and McGregor disclose the method according to claim 1. Haitsuka further discloses that the advertising information according to the passage count of the

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client in the transmission area is transmitted to the client in response to reception from the client of a request to transmit advertising information (col 4, lines 52-56).

Claim 3: Haitsuka and Cohen and McGregor disclose the method according to claim 1.

Haitsuka does not explicitly disclose that the advertising information is transmitted in the passage count of the client has reached a predetermined value.

However, Haitsuka discloses monitoring user activities including geographic activity, that the advertiser can utilize a wide range of criteria for sending advertising (Fig. 3; col 6, lines 13-28), and that the frequency of advertisements can be set (col 6, lines 13-28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that Haitsuka can make user visits to a certain area a criteria for sending advertisements. One would have been motivated to do this in order to target users who are often in a certain area.

Claim 4: Haitsuka and Cohen and McGregor disclose the method according to claim 1.

Haitsuka does not explicitly disclose that neighboring transmission areas are set up to overlap each other, and, in the overlapping portion of the transmission areas, advertising information according to the passage count of the client in each of the overlapping transmission areas is transmitted in accordance with predetermined rules.

However, Cohen discloses that neighboring transmission areas are set up to overlap each other, and, in the overlapping portion of the transmission areas, advertising information according to the passage count of the client in each of the overlapping transmission areas is transmitted in accordance with predetermined rules (col 5, lines 45-52; col 1, lines 34-39; col 1, lines 52-56).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add Cohen's overlapping zones with advertising to Haitsuka's targeting advertising geographically to a user. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide a range of advertisements for different areas or overlapping areas.

Claim 9: Haitsuka and Cohen and McGregor disclose the method according to claim 1, and Haitsuka further disclose that the transmission area is divided in transmission time periods, and a different piece of advertising information to be transmitted to the client in the transmission area is registered for each transmission time period (col 2, lines 48-50; col 6, lines 17-27).

Claim 10: Haitsuka and Cohen and McGregor disclose the method according to claim 9, and Haitsuka further disclose that different pieces of advertising information according to the transmission area and the transmission time periods are transmitted to the client (col 2, lines 50-60; Fig. 3, item 140f).

Claim 11: Haitsuka and Cohen and McGregor disclose the method according to claim 10, and Haitsuka further disclose that when the client is passing through the transmission area, advertising information according to the passage count in the corresponding the transmission time period is transmitted to the client (Fig. 3).

Claim 14, 15: Haitsuka discloses a method, medium receiving advertising information, medium comprising:

transmitting position information of a client sequentially to a server (col 5, line 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 42-45);  
receiving from the server advertising information according to the count of passage through that transmission area at that time, when passing through an advertising information transmission



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area in which the position information belongs (Fig. 3; col 3, lines 60-65; col 5, lines 27-44; col 5, lines 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 24-34; col 7, lines 2-5).

Haitsuka further discloses tracking what advertisements a user was exposed, how many exposures a user was presented, and the frequency of exposure to advertisements (col 2, lines 62-67; col 6, lines 17-27).

Haitsuka does not explicitly disclose defining transmission areas.

However, as disclosed above in the prior art references, Haitsuka discloses tracking and recording a variety of user information including demographic, profile, and geographic information including specific user location or the general user location. Haitsuka further discloses that a variety of criteria can be utilized for determining whether to send advertising to a user, including geographic criteria in many forms.

Additionally, Cohen discloses defining transmission areas (col 1, line 60-col 2, line 17; Fig. 2; Fig. 3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to that Haitsuka can utilize geographic area information or user frequency in a geographic area as criteria for transmission of advertising. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide advertising of location convenient interest to a user.

Hairsuka further discloses that the client can be mobile (col 4, lines 12-30).

Haitsuka further discloses recording the number of times a user sees an advertisement (col 2, lines 55-60) and recording the frequency or number of times a users sees an advertisement and that geographic location can be a requirement for whether the user sees an advertisement (col 6, lines 17-27).

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Haitsuka further discloses tracking user location, profile, demographics, interactive data, scheduling requirements (col 3, lines 60-65) and that this information can be utilized for sending information (col 5, lines 30-44; col 6, lines 24-29).

Cohen discloses geographic zones for advertising (col 1, lines 27-40 and as cited above) and that the number of displays of an advertisement in a predefined geographic zone is recorded (col 5, lines 20-34).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to that Haitsuka can utilize geographic area information or user frequency in a geographic area in a certain time period as criteria for transmission of advertising. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide appropriate or optimal amounts of targeted advertising to users.

Also, please see the rejection of claims 1, 7, 12, 18 above for a full analysis of the use of the McGregor reference.

Claim 16: Haitsuka discloses a method receiving advertising information, comprising:  
transmitting position information of a client sequentially to a server (col 5, line 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 42-45);  
transmitting a request for transfer to the server (Fig. 3);  
receiving the count of passage through a transmission area for the advertising information at the time of transmission of the transfer request or corresponding incentive information to the passage count (Fig. 3; col 3, lines 60-65; col 5, lines 27-44; col 5, lines 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 24-34; col 7, lines 2-5); and

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storing the received passage count or incentive information on a portable external storage medium (col 4, lines 13-20).

Haitsuka further discloses tracking what advertisements a user was exposed, how many exposures a user was presented, and the frequency of exposure to advertisements (col 2, lines 62-67; col 6, lines 17-27).

Haitsuka does not explicitly disclose defining transmission areas.

However, as disclosed above in the prior art references, Haitsuka discloses tracking and recording a variety of user information including demographic, profile, and geographic information including specific user location or the general user location. Haitsuka further discloses that a variety of criteria can be utilized for determining whether to send advertising to a user, including geographic criteria in many forms.

Additionally, Cohen discloses defining transmission areas (col 1, line 60-col 2, line 17; Fig. 2; Fig. 3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to that Haitsuka can utilize geographic area information or user frequency in a geographic area as criteria for transmission of advertising. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide advertising of location convenient interest to a user.

Hairsuka further discloses that the client can be mobile (col 4, lines 12-30).

Haitsuka further discloses recording the number of times a user sees an advertisement (col 2, lines 55-60) and recording the frequency or number of times a users sees an advertisement and that geographic location can be a requirement for whether the user sees an advertisement (col 6, lines 17-27).

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Haitsuka further discloses tracking user location, profile, demographics, interactive data, scheduling requirements (col 3, lines 60-65) and that this information can be utilized for sending information (col 5, lines 30-44; col 6, lines 24-29).

Cohen discloses geographic zones for advertising (col 1, lines 27-40 and as cited above) and that the number of displays of an advertisement in a predefined geographic zone is recorded (col 5, lines 20-34).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to that Haitsuka can utilize geographic area information or user frequency in a geographic area in a certain time period as criteria for transmission of advertising. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide appropriate or optimal amounts of targeted advertising to users.

Also, please see the rejection of claims 1, 7, 12, 18 above for a full analysis of the use of the McGregor reference.

4. Claim 5, 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haitsuka (6,366,298) in view of Cohen (6,236,330) in further view of McGregor (5,250,941) and in further view of Bandera (6,332,127).

Claim 5, 13: Haitsuka discloses a method transmitting advertising information, comprising:

setting up conditions assigning targeted advertising and advertising information in a predetermined advertising information transmission area (col 2, lines 50-60);

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receiving position information from a number of clients (col 5, line 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 42-45);

determining the state of passage of each of the clients in the transmission area in which the position information from the clients belong (Fig. 3; col 3, lines 60-65; col 5, lines 27-44; col 5, lines 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 24-34; col 7, lines 2-5); and

assigning the advertising information to the client or clients that meet the conditions on the basis of the state of passage (col 2, lines 50-60; Fig. 3; col 3, lines 60-65; col 5, lines 27-44; col 5, lines 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 24-34; col 7, lines 2-5).

Haitsuka further discloses tracking what advertisements a user was exposed, how many exposures a user was presented, and the frequency of exposure to advertisements (col 2, lines 62-67; col 6, lines 17-27).

Haitsuka does not explicitly disclose defining transmission areas.

However, as disclosed above in the prior art references, Haitsuka discloses tracking and recording a variety of user information including demographic, profile, and geographic information including specific user location or the general user location. Haitsuka further discloses that a variety of criteria can be utilized for determining whether to send advertising to a user, including geographic criteria in many forms.

Additionally, Cohen discloses defining transmission areas (col 1, line 60-col 2, line 17; Fig. 2; Fig. 3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to that Haitsuka can utilize geographic area information or user

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frequency in a geographic area as criteria for transmission of advertising. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide advertising of location convenient interest to a user.

Haitsuka does not explicitly disclose incentives distinct from advertising.

However, Bandera further discloses incentives distinct from advertising (col 3, lines 19-42).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add Bandera's incentives and advertising to Haitsuka's advertising for promotional purposes. One would have been motivated to do this in order to keep better track of different types of advertising and the response to different types of advertising.

Hairsuka further discloses that the client can be mobile (col 4, lines 12-30).

Haitsuka further discloses recording the number of times a user sees an advertisement (col 2, lines 55-60) and recording the frequency or number of times a users sees an advertisement and that geographic location can be a requirement for whether the user sees an advertisement (col 6, lines 17-27).

Haitsuka further discloses tracking user location, profile, demographics, interactive data, scheduling requirements (col 3, lines 60-65) and that this information can be utilized for sending information (col 5, lines 30-44; col 6, lines 24-29).

Cohen discloses geographic zones for advertising (col 1, lines 27-40 and as cited above) and that the number of displays of an advertisement in a predefined geographic zone is recorded (col 5, lines 20-34).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to that Haitsuka can utilize geographic area information or user

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frequency in a geographic area in a certain time period as criteria for transmission of advertising. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide appropriate or optimal amounts of targeted advertising to users.

Also, please see the rejection of claims 1, 7, 12, 18 above for a full analysis of the use of the McGregor reference.

5. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haitsuka (6,366,298) in view of Cohen (6,236,330) in further view of McGregor (5,250,941) and in further view of Gough (6,360,221).

Claim 8: Haitsuka and Cohen and McGregor disclose the method according to claim 1.

Haitsuka further discloses fees and user control over content (col 2, lines 35-41; col 4, lines 53-56).

Haitsuka does not explicitly disclose that the transmission of advertising information to the client is omitted as instructed by the client.

However, Gough discloses that the transmission of advertising information to the client is omitted as instructed by the client (col 6, lines 30-36).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add Gough's omission of advertisements to Haitsuka's user control of content. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide better user control over user paid services.

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6. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haitsuka (6,366,298) in view of Cohen (6,236,330) in further view of McGregor (5,250,941) and in further view of Eggelston (6,061,660).

Claim 17: Haitsuka discloses a method receiving advertising information, comprising: receiving a transmission management database which defines transmission criteria for advertising information (Fig. 3, 140c); retrieving from the database a count of passage through the transmission area through which it is passing based on position information of a client, and storing the count of passage (Fig. 3; col 3, lines 60-65; col 5, lines 27-44; col 5, lines 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 24-34; col 7, lines 2-5); transmitting to the server a request for transmission of advertising information and the passage count (Fig. 3; col 3, lines 60-65; col 5, lines 27-44; col 5, lines 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 24-34; col 7, lines 2-5); and receiving from the server advertising information according to the passage count in the transmission area at time of the transmitting (Fig. 3; col 3, lines 60-65; col 5, lines 27-44; col 5, lines 59-col 6, line 4; col 6, lines 24-34; col 7, lines 2-5).

Haitsuka further discloses tracking what advertisements a user was exposed, how many exposures a user was presented, and the frequency of exposure to advertisements (col 2, lines 62-67; col 6, lines 17-27).

Haitsuka does not explicitly disclose defining transmission areas.

However, as disclosed above in the prior art references, Haitsuka discloses tracking and recording a variety of user information including demographic, profile, and geographic information including specific user location or the general user location. Haitsuka further



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discloses that a variety of criteria can be utilized for determining whether to send advertising to a user, including geographic criteria in many forms.

Additionally, Cohen discloses defining transmission areas and the utilization of advertising (col 1, line 60-col 2, line 17; Fig. 2; Fig. 3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to that Haisuka can utilize geographic area information or user frequency in a geographic area as criteria for transmission of advertising. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide advertising of location convenient interest to a user.

Eggleston further discloses the utilization of awards points as an incentive and related to advertising purposes.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add Eggleston's utilization of points to Haisuka's advertising. One would have been motivated to do this in order to entice regular users.

Haisuka further discloses that the client can be mobile (col 4, lines 12-30).

Haisuka further discloses recording the number of times a user sees an advertisement (col 2, lines 55-60) and recording the frequency or number of times a users sees an advertisement and that geographic location can be a requirement for whether the user sees an advertisement (col 6, lines 17-27).

Haisuka further discloses tracking user location, profile, demographics, interactive data, scheduling requirements (col 3, lines 60-65) and that this information can be utilized for sending information (col 5, lines 30-44; col 6, lines 24-29).

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Cohen discloses geographic zones for advertising (col 1, lines 27-40 and as cited above) and that the number of displays of an advertisement in a predefined geographic zone is recorded (col 5, lines 20-34).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to that Haitsuka can utilize geographic area information or user frequency in a geographic area in a certain time period as criteria for transmission of advertising. One would have been motivated to do this in order to provide appropriate or optimal amounts of targeted advertising to users.

Also, please see the rejection of claims 1, 7, 12, 18 above for a full analysis of the use of the McGregor reference.

### ***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, and 7-18 have been considered but are moot in grounds of the new rejection. Please note that additional citations and analysis, including the utilization of the McGregor reference, has been added to the rejection of claims 1, 7, 12, 18 above starting with the section stating, "Additionally, Haitsuka discloses tracking a user geographically and that. . .".

Also, Examiner notes that claim 1 is interpreted as the passage count equaling zero or one for the specified time period. That is, as claim 1 is written, the passage count is always zero or one since the passage count of two or more are disregarded. The predetermined area and the predetermined time period vary. However, the passage count is always zero or one.

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Examiner further notes that it is the Applicant's claims as stated in the Applicant's claims that are being rejected with the prior art. Also, although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). And, Examiner notes that claims are given their broadest reasonable construction. See *In re Hyatt*, 211 F.3d 1367, 54 USPQ2d 1664 (Fed. Cir. 2000).

Examiner notes that while specific references were made to the prior art, it is actually also the prior art in its entirety and the combination of the prior art in its entirety that is being referred to. One cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

### ***Conclusion***

The following prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- a) Dowling (6,873,850) discloses sending information to a user based on the user entering a certain area;
- b) Knockheart (6,622,083) discloses sending information to a user based on the user entering a certain area.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arthur Duran whose telephone number is (571) 272-6718. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon- Fri, 8:00-4:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber can be reached on (571) 272-6724. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arthur Duran', is positioned above the printed name.

Arthur Duran  
Patent Examiner  
8/16/05